THE ASIAN CLAM INVASION:
A NEW NEARSHORE INVASIVE SPECIES IN LAKE TAHOE

PRESENTATION BY MARION WITTMANN, PH.D.

PRESENTED BY THE UC DAVIS TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER

Date: **Wednesday, December 3, 2008**
Time: **5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**
Lecture begins promptly at 6:00 p.m.
Cost: **$5 donation requested. No-Host Bar.**
Location: **Assembly Rooms 139 & 141,**
Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences
291 Country Club Drive, Incline Village, Nevada
(on the campus of Sierra Nevada College)

Dr. Marion Wittmann is an aquatic invasion ecologist who enjoys thinking about the pathways of spread and ecological impacts of non-native freshwater species. She studied biology as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, and recently completed her doctorate from UC Santa Barbara where she focused on the dispersal of Eurasian watermilfoil by recreational boating in and around the Lake Tahoe Basin. Currently she is a researcher at the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center.

Over the past century, there have been a number of intentional and unintentional introductions of non-native species to Lake Tahoe. These introductions have had a variety of impacts on the lake; affecting lake clarity, native species, trophic interactions, and the potential facilitation of other non-native species introduction and establishment.

UC Davis researchers recently discovered large populations of clams in some nearshore areas in the southeast corner of Lake Tahoe. It has been confirmed that these are the invasive species *Corbicula fluminea*, also known as the Asian clam.

Asian clam is a common freshwater invader that is known for its dispersal abilities and resistance to a wide range of environmental conditions. In this talk, Wittmann will discuss the ecology and biology of Asian clam, its known distribution and potential impact to Lake Tahoe including links to nearshore habitat, nuisance algal blooms and other potential invasive bivalves, such as the quagga mussel.

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